US-Asia Institute

Recutive Registry

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July 3, 1981

The Honorable William Casey Director of Intelligence Central Intelligence Agency Washington, DC 20505

Dear Bill:

Four million U.S. citizens of Asian descent live and work in this country. As President Reagan so aptly put it in his Proclamation of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, 1981:

"Their hard work, creativity, and intelligence have inspired their fellow citizens, added new dimensions to our national life, and strengthened the social fabric of our land."

Further, U.S. Asians have an unique role to play in the future of the United States.

--What other group can so readily transgress the language and cultural barriers in dealing with Asian countries?

--Who else can so effectively assist in making inroads to Asian countries through personal contacts and ready acceptance in their ancestral countries?

--What other group can as effectively serve as national emissaries in dealing with Asia -- politically, economically, strategically?

The US-ASIA INSTITUTE (USAI) feels the four million U.S. Asians can be a force to effectively reach the two billion people of Asia. USAI was founded in 1979 with that in mind —to strengthen the ties between the United States and Asian countries. USAI was conceived as a vehicle for research, planning and discussion of the issues involved in promoting Asian/Pacific American visibility at home, and constructive foreign policy abroad.

Although the US-Asia Institute is a young organization, we have many established links to the governmental and private sectors, both domestically and abroad. Further, we have set up a network linking us to all of the Asian/Pacific American communities as well as to the Asian and Pacific countries. Our plans for the future include more USAI seminars such as the one held recently with Special Trade Representative, Ambassador William Brock. We will also continue the work of our Advisory Council to the East Asian and Pacific Affairs Bureau of the Department of State. We plan to publish additional position papers similar to our one on Immigration and Refugee Policy. Finally, we will continue to sponsor trade missions to various Asian countries, such as our upcoming one to the People's Republic of China in September 1981.

L306

USAI Honorary Trustee Page 2

Because of your continued dedication to the Asian American community, and your keen interest in the development and strengthening of ties with Asia, it is with great pleasure that I, as Chairman of the US-Asia Institute, invite you to become an HONORARY TRUSTEE of the Institute. I, and the other members of the Board, would indeed be honored if you will serve in this "honorary" capacity.

Enclosed for your information is material on USAI. My office will be contacting you next week to discuss this further, and if you desire, a personal meeting can be arranged so you can learn more about the US-Asia Institute.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to call our Executive Director, Esther G. Kee, of our Washington, D.C. office (202) 466-6124.

I look forward to receiving your response, and believe that together we can foster a constructive relationship between the U.S. and Asia. Thank you for your consideration of our invitation!

Very truly yours,

Kay Sugahara Chairman

Enclosures

KS/msb